1 -

by Oji Yukimichi

Raws: Johanna
Translator: Parolles
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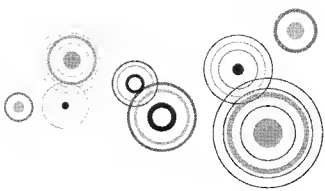
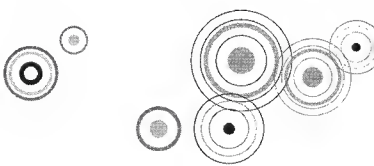
Chapter 07

SERAPHIC DEVILTRY



ONE – ICHI



1

One Ichi
Chapter 4

In this place...
Sorry for taking it on myself to change the performance,
but it's closer to the original.
No, don't worry about it.

Thanks. I just have a habit of writing everything down in the script.
But I mustn't restrict the freedom of the actors.
Shall I correct my script?
No, I think it's fine.
Would it be a good idea to ask your father?
No, it's my personal interpretation.
The author creates the logic of the world of the work,
but in a way, the reader's impressions and interpretations are more important.
Thanks.

It seems as if you understand "Miwa's" emotions very well.
That's what Father said.
And I think so too.
But since now people will be watching you on the stage,
To convey them.
I wonder if it will be easy for you...
...
I wonder that too.

Did Kanou-san force his choice
of Father's book on you?
Is that so?
but the majority of the club supported him.
He was the one who suggested it.
Don't misunder-stand.
Well,
he thought that book was amazing.
Sempai was also the one who recom-mended Father's book?

It's a principle of mine to hate the things he loves.
Well, don't worry about it.
...?
Ichi.
Yes?
Most of the parts have been memorized.
*in kabuki, female roles played by men
The oyama* roles have a lot to memorize,
but it helped that they were quick to learn.
And the result?
Somehow my worries haven't been relieved yet.
To be honest, up until now I didn't think you were giving your heart and soul to the play.
Until you took responsibility, it was all just a bunch of noise.

If there isn't some real exchange of feelings,
Yes, there is.
I'll just be a kind of stand-in.
Is there something in particular motivating you?
Surely there won't be a second chance for my brother and me
to act out this work of my father's?
That's true.
Then...
Your brother must have the same motivation.

I wondered how he would do,
but when he came to tell me to use him, his confidence wasn't a bluff.
His performance is true to life.
Does he have an attachment to that role?
...It's as if he's been possessed.

The main character, Udzu, meets Miwa on a moonlit night at the bank of a pond.
Ghost Moon is a fantasy novel about disappointed love.

Miwa is a spirit dressed as a young noblewoman,
who remains asleep but comes out to wander at night...
while her body rests in the mansion.
The lovers have many meetings,
and in the end, Miwa is able to appear every night.
But before long she realizes her time is short.

A gentle smile appears on Miwa's dying face.
Udzu appears beside her pillow and embraces Miwa.
And then, at her dying moment...
After that, Udzu's body is found on the bank of the pond.
Yearning for Miwa, Udzu became a ghost so they could be joined for eternity.

I hate this story.
The departed become happy and don't have any after-thought about those left behind.
knock knock
Wan.
I'm coming in.

...Oi, oi.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Waaah!
You're making a mess...
I'm cleaning it up now!
I'm trying...
to make a picture book.
You're Father's child too.
UGH...
I know, but...
Don't just barge into my room and order me around.
...why?
What's it for?

Your hair has really gotten long.
I only came to borrow the encyclopedia.
You might not even need a wig.

St...
stop.

You...
but you wanted that role from the beginning.
You pretended that I dragged you into it.
Did you just use me?
No...
Stop it...
I...
You wouldn't do something you hated.
You anticipated that Kanou-san would give in to you, didn't you?
No...

Just like you wanted to be Miwa...
So I wanted to be Udzu.
I love you, Icchan.
You should understand better than anyone, Nii-chan.
Are you mocking me?
I'm being serious.

SLAP
If...you were serious...
Then you already understand my true motivations, don't you?
And in that case, you've only come this far to interfere, haven't you?
No!
And in order to interfere...

CLOSE

...Why don't you understand?
Oh, good morning.

Good morning.
Is Nii-chan not up yet?
He's already left.
He told me he'll have morning library duty from now on...
Didn't you hear?

...Father.

He's already decided to do it?
Yes.
!
Have you told Icchan...?!
I have one more thing to ask of you.
It's going as planned.
I haven't told him yet,
in case something occurred just before to prevent it.
Then I can't object.
You'll be lonesome,
but you should be happy for him.

That's...
true...
So are you going to wait until she's released?
No.
Because that child is not as strong as you.

Since I can't put it off any longer...

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Chapter 08

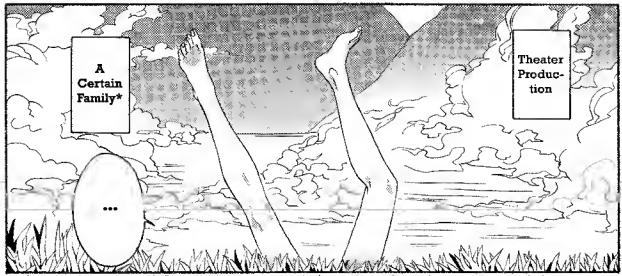
SERAPHIC DEVILTRY

1

Oji Yukimichi
Presents

One Ichi

Hey, you!
Your face is like a girl's!
Damn...
Everyone mistakes me for a girl...
Girly Face Complex
Take your clothes off for a minute!
*Corridor
murmur...
Open them more and let me see!
Hey,
you're scaring me!
Uh, what?
As I thought, you have pretty legs!
Huh ?



A reference to The Inugami Family (known as The Inugamis in English) a 2006 horror film that features a corpse upside down in the water.

END

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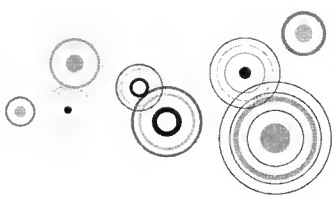
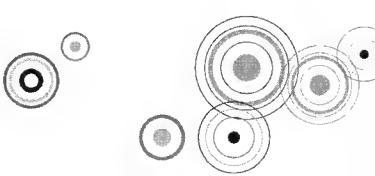
Chapter 09

SERAPHIC DEVILTRY



ONE – ICHI



One Ichi Chapter 5

I know that the feelings I had for my father were ones of love.
*Library
図書館
I was strongly attracted to beautiful things, and I longed for them.

And he would come to his senses.
If I didn't respond, I could pretend not to notice.
I knew, but I didn't want to know.
And my little brother is also harboring similar feelings for me.
Whether it's a misunderstanding or he's imprinted on me,
I'd hoped to avoid confronting him.
Wan's thoughts always come back to me.

BUMP
Oops. Sorry.
kchak
Family is important, so I don't want to destroy mine.
Ghost Moon
...Let's put a stop to this
once and for all.

1

Chapter 5

RECEPTION TABLE
FOUNDERS' FESTIVAL
You don't seem nervous.
It's true. Less than I thought.
Looks like a huge success.
Advance tickets will be sold out soon.
That's not very cute of you.

...Farewells should have
a quiet and solemn atmosphere.
Thank you for your patience.
In just a moment, the school's drama club will present
a special Founders' Day production of Ghost Moon.
whistle

Please come and hear...
The story of a man who longed for the apparition of a princess.
If so, please pass through the screen of silvergrass and thoughtwort,
and allow me to present you this poem, written on paper scented with incense
and these flowers.

...Udzu is more like my brother than like father.
Flowers...
...I'd never thought about that.

They're both very good.
Quite frankly, I was surprised.
It's a good performance, but he lacks Udzu's malice.
Rather than love's selfishness, I'd call it
complete devotion.
I guess his age and lack of experience weren't a problem.
...
I guess not.
If I do that, will you
be in that high window?

Because you have given up going out under the sun,
you must be unbearably afraid.
Are you...
Are you...
proposing to take me away from there?
My brother has always followed me around.
Even when I took great pains to avoid him, he'd be waiting for me, wanting to say something to me.
You are saying such cruel things to me.
That's right. Wan's behavior toward me has been cruel.

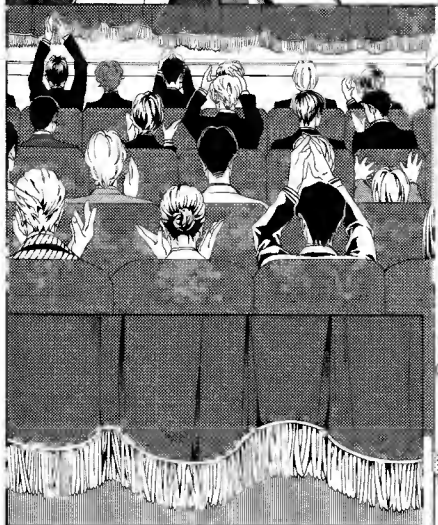
Why not?
I'm not going to go.
Didn't you say you'd go to the festival with Father?
If you're not going, then I'm not going.
Can't I be with you?
You, on the other hand, are healthy.
I have a fever, so I can't go.
...but it's not that I don't want to go.

Father, what's wrong?
Buzz Buzz
Kenjirou...!
...With you.
Seems he went outside with his hair wet.
What is it?
Why would you do such a thing?
I want to be
Icchan.
with...

Your big brother's fever isn't from a cold.
Well, let's hurry and get you warmed up.
Nii-chan...!
Because...
I'm not healthy...
You mustn't infect him.
Nii-chan...
Nii-chan!
Be good until you feel better, please.

Why didn't I take his hand?
I'm sorry for appearing before you like this,
because I wanted to appear as a princess to you.
What are you saying?
You are the same as when you are beneath the moon.

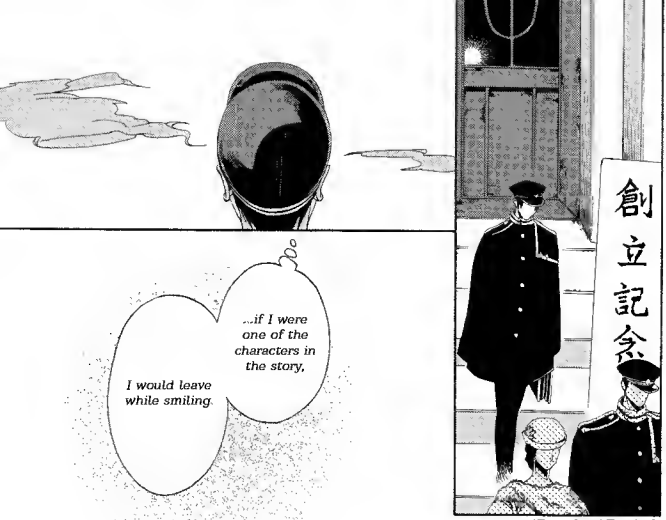
No...no.
I'm holding you just as anyone would.
...You are an apparition suited to the end of a dream.
I just...
want to be by your side.



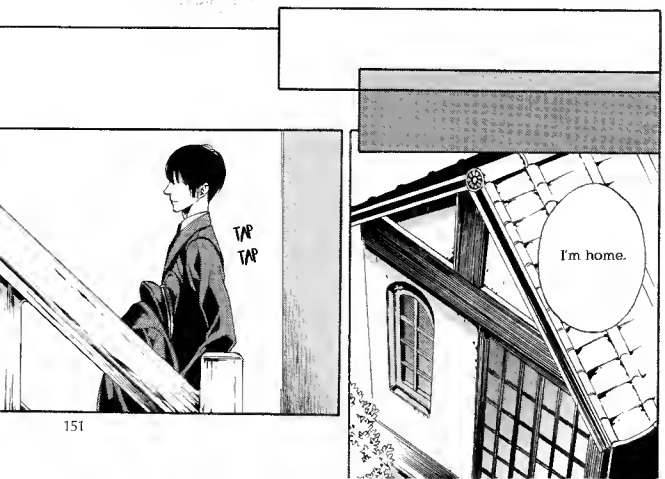
Thank you very much.
That was good! Really good!
Ichi!
Er, excuse me,
but in that last scene...it seemed as if you were overcome with emotion.
Where's my brother?
He and your father were both detained by the other parents.
...By which he means the mothers.
I mean, if those tears were the real thing, that was some awesome acting.

We made you work hard for a long time even though you're not strong.
Don't worry. Go ahead, go home, and rest.
so please excuse me if I leave you now.
I don't mean to be rude,
but I'm feeling a little ill...

Do you want me to call your brother?
Thank you so much,
but I'll be fine on my own.



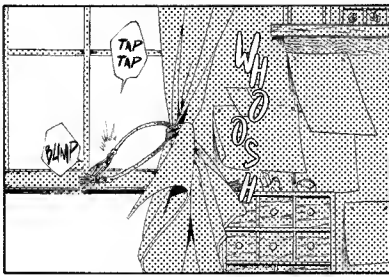
*Founders' Festival

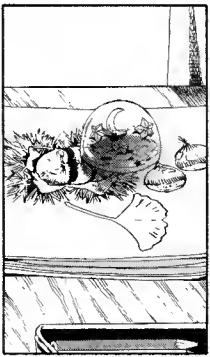


Wan,
are you in your room?

TAP

Is this... me?
Is this how I looked to him?


TAP TAP
BUMP
WHOOSH



How careless he is.
BUMP

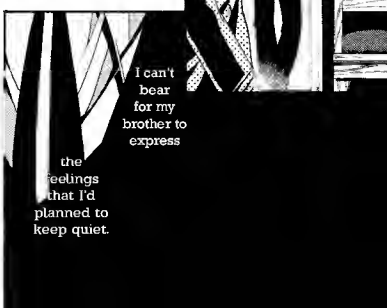
Flowers...I remember all of them.
The cast-off shell of a cicada, a stag beetle,
a chestnut, a cattail...
All things he came to show me.
Isn't it the story of Wan and me?
He told me it was a picture book, but...
Hm...
This...is this Wan?
Why...?

I'm...fine.

Everyone was praising your performance.

He couldn't allow what we had mutually agreed on: to leave those feelings behind on the stage.

Icchan, how are you feeling?



I can't bear for my brother to express the feelings that I'd planned to keep quiet.

...Happy?
It's the story of a happy dog.
I'll show you when it's finished.
Yes...
This...
Looking for beautiful objects for his beloved and precious person,
waiting for that person,
those are happy things.
...Even if I can't express it,
or if you don't feel the same way...

Whether you feel it or not doesn't change my feelings.
Even if I make you sad or anger you...
If you don't know that I would do anything for you
...Then you are mistaken.

I'm always only venting my irritation...

Did your wish come true on stage,
Princess?
...I'm so glad I look like Father.

Thought about my feelings...
And played Father's role
for my sake.
All along,
you...

When you said you'd decided to do he play,
I was happy that you felt strong enough to do it.
I wonder if I really did a good job.
Or...
I was mistaken yet again.

Big brother...?

BUMP
FLUMP
Ow!
That hurt...
Are you saying...?
Yeah.
Are you saying that's why you acted in the play?

Because that's the only thing I could do for you.
...Idiot.

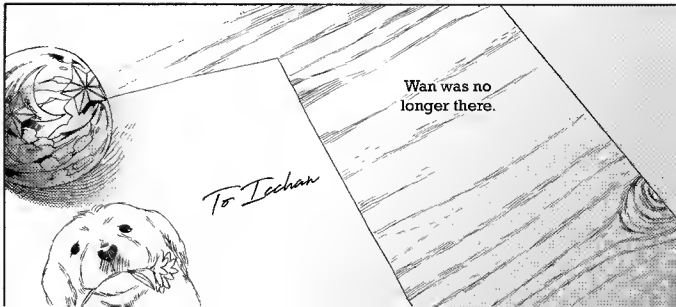
...Icchan.

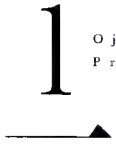
Icchan...
Icchan.
!
You have a terrible fever...!

Icchan...?!
!
The reason didn't matter.
I wanted to be touched by Wan.
Icchan...!
Icchan.
Even if it was because of the fever, or confusion, or out of pity...

I fell into a deep sleep and didn't move or become conscious again for three days.

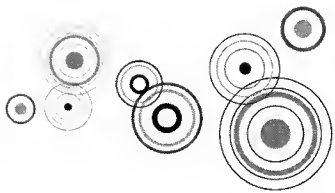
Was it because the tension had suddenly released, and fatigue had taken over?



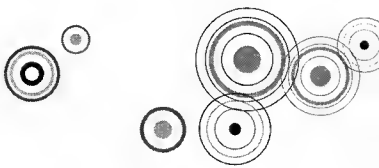


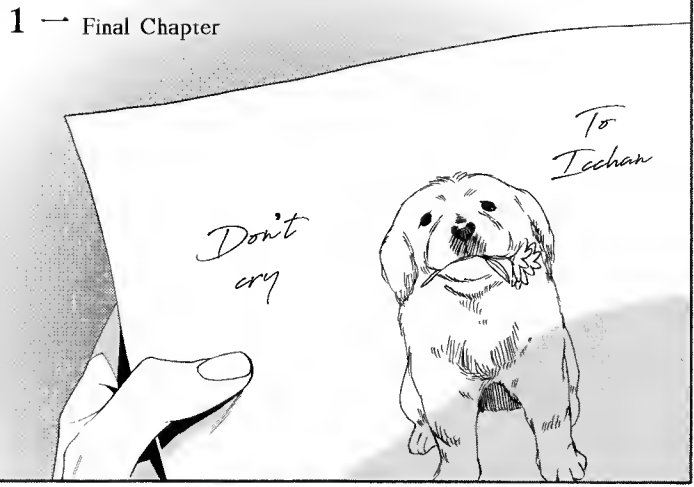
Oji Yukimichi
Presents

One Ichi



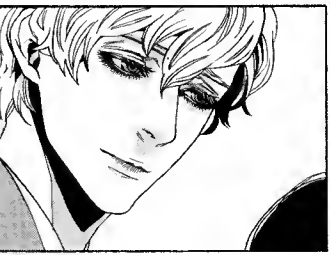
ONE – ICHI

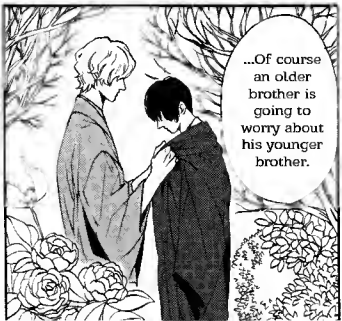


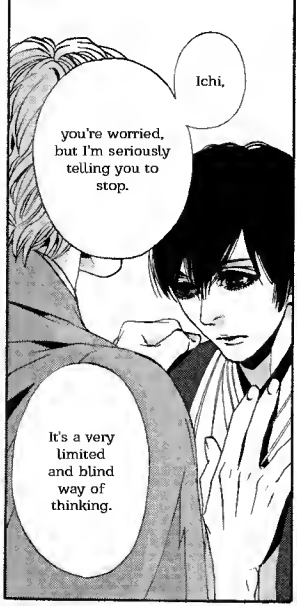

To
Icchan
Don't
cry

Father.
Where did Wan go?
He left home all of a sudden.
I never heard anything about it.
step?
That's because he forbade me to tell you.

When I asked him, he told me he wanted to take a break from school to do some drawing.
Why...?!
Kenjirou
told me he didn't want to worry you.

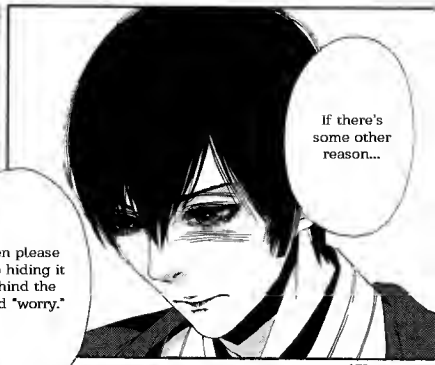



...Of course an older brother is going to worry about his younger brother.


Ichi,
you're worried, but I'm seriously telling you to stop.
It's a very limited and blind way of thinking.

Now, he only wants to observe things and draw them, is what he said.
I remember feeling that way too.

Then please stop hiding it behind the word "worry."


If there's some other reason...

We're both strange.
Isn't hiding him from me a narrow way of thinking?
I know my field of vision has become narrow.
Not only that...but I've hurt Wan.

Wan thought he was the one who was wrong.

So that's why I have to see him.

1

Final Chapter

...Please excuse me.
KNOCK

SCRABBLE
SCRABBLE
SCRABBLE
SCRABBLE
How careless...
hm?

Creak

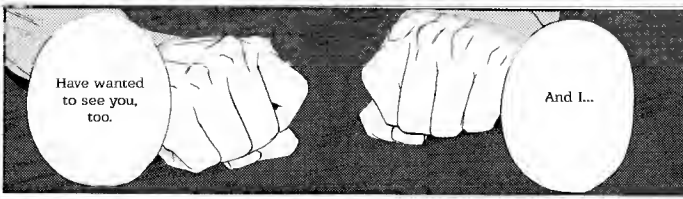
Hey, Ichi!
WOOF!
SURPRISE
Wah!
Oh.
Uh...
"Ichi"...?

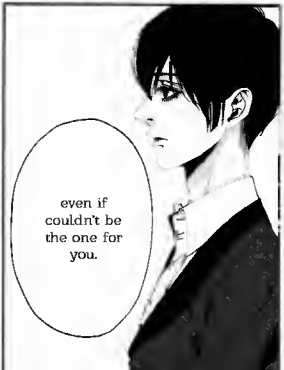
It's okay.
You have to be careful when they're young.
Is this okay?
Shouldn't the dog be outside?
From the beginning,
I've thought he was a lot like me.
But I gave him the name I wanted to call him by.
So...he'd at least have the name.

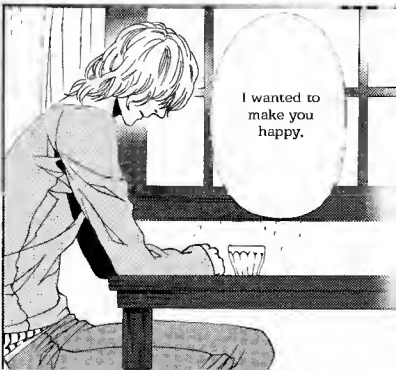
Why have you come,
even though I told Father to keep it a secret?
What a nice place.
It has a warm and quiet feeling.
But why did you go so far?
He was surprised.
Must be the first time ever.
I got angry and pressed him.
You did?
I forced it out of him.

Because I wanted to see you.

Because I felt I had to see you.


Have wanted to see you, too.
And I...


even if couldn't be the one for you.


I wanted to make you happy.

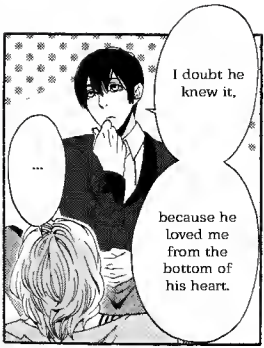
Just to be able to be with you, whether as a dog or as a little brother, and to be loved by you, if even just a little.
But I only made you angry.
You didn't need me, even as a dog.
But I'm not cute anymore.
STARTLE

It's not true that you're not cute.
You're not Father.
But Father will never be you.

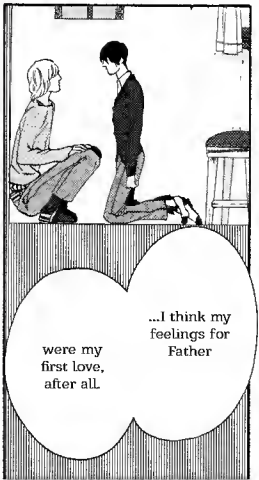
No...we can't.
I can't do without my dog.
If the person I love does something like that to me,
it'll be too painful...

It's all right to do what you want to do.
Icchan, your "love"
and my "love" are different.
Ever since I was little.
I've...
loved you one-sidedly...

I'm sorry.
It was convenient to endure it by playing the role
of your dog.
I don't want to be kept away from you because I'm disgusting.
But it was as if I was betraying you the whole time.
However ...
since I can never be Udzu...


I doubt he knew it,
...
because he loved me from the bottom of his heart.

That's not what I'm saying...!
I thought there was nothing I could do
about the way I felt about Father, even if it was wrong.


...I think my feelings for Father
were my first love, after all.

Can I just apologize...?
I'm sorry for misunderstanding you.

When I was a child, I really...
Had an unrequited love for him.
But Father was never going to love me back in the same way.
...In some way I didn't really want that.
Father would never be...
...That kind of person.
...I didn't know that.

So I ran away.
Don't you think so?
In the end, that was me.
The dog you talked about who waited happily beneath the window...
Then I came here to see you.
And to hold you close.
To see you...
I've faced my feelings for Father.

Call my name,
not the name you gave your dog.
Call my name.
I don't really want to be Miwa,
and it's fine that you aren't Udzu.
Icchan...

I was so sad without you.
my chest hurt.
I wanted to cherish you with my whole body.
Icchan.
Icchan.
I yearned for your scent and for the weight of your body.
Did you feel the same?

Hey...
Wait!
I'm not speaking as a dog, you know.
Yes...
But... But...
Where's the bedroom?
Huh?
Nii-chan...?!

BUMP
Ow!
...!
There.
Disap-
pointed?
...Weren't
you also
mistaken
about me?

...
As I thought.
Don't...
SWIFT
SQUEEZE
Don't look...!

Do what you want to do.
Did you get that way from looking at me?
I'm sorry! I'm sorry!
JUMP
Just wait a little...I'll bring in the heater.
Wherever you like.
...It's really okay.
Touch me...

But I'm fine with this level of cold.
KONK
Ow!
stagger
I don't want you to get cold,
so get under the covers.
So...
er...
Yeah.
Yeah.
I've noticed my hands have gotten chapped,
and I crushed some wild rose petals and made this balm out of them.
...There's a creek close by.
tap

I don't know if I'll be any good at it, so...
I won't.
I don't want you to hate me...
Come here.

They're all mine.
Your skin and your bones and your hair and your hands...
jolt
Mm!
SUCK SUCK
Ah!
Nah..!
Hyah...
Unh...

Wah!

Hah...
hah..!

Mm!
Mf!
squelch
polka

Idiot...!
Stop that!
THUMP
OW!

SFX: thrust
Ah.
Ah!
...!
I'm... putting it in, okay?
SQUELCH

Always only looking at me...

And doing his utmost to give me pleasure,

Icchan?
Are you hurt? Or feeling unwell?
No.
You are so dear to me.

His anonymously published book was received fairly well,
and had multiple printings.
Before long, Wan returned to school and graduated.
After another postponement of Mother's release from the hospital,
a letter came the next week saying she could convalesce at home starting next week.
So soon Father will no longer be lonely.

Now
Wan and I live at his house.
Icchan.

...I'd say you're always surprisingly bold, Icchan.

No,
my unrequited love was much shorter than I'd thought.

I took such a long detour
to arrive at such a simple answer, didn't I?

And you're just as indecisive as you look.
I'm just careful...
Unlike the garden across the way, there are plenty of things to draw here.
But you're enough for me, Icchan.
Hey,
that tickles.
Are you saying now that I'm not a dog, I can't lick you anymore?
Idiot.

...Now you mention it, maybe nothing has changed?
Even when you act normal, you're like a dog.
He's a dog in front of everyone,
but I'm only Wan for you.
I'm so happy I can't stand it.

You'll always be my Wan.

1 -

by Oji Yukimichi

Raws: Johanna
Translator: Parolles
Cleaning: Mo
Typesetting: Amarelis
Proofreading: Halalima | Parolles
QC: Amarelis | Parolles

Extra

Well...
So...
You're a man, after all...
Don't you want to...
Hey,
For me to do it to you?
Icchan, is it okay...
Huh?
...You love?
kya
Do it
To the person...
And also, it's too much trouble.
I'm not really interested in your butt, so it's fine.

END

What's with that...?
I want to sleep in your bed...
Heh heh, what a spoiled little boy.
...I'm home.
Oh, welcome home.
COMING BACK HOME.
I missed you too.
CLING
CLING
I missed you...!
You and I are too much alike.
I'm fine...
No.
How about it? You want to, too?
You're kidding, right?
WHAT ABOUT YOU IS LIKE FATHER? COME OFF IT!

END

Why does everyone write their afterwards by hand?

Hello, this is Yukimichi Oji.

Thank you for buying this book. No matter how you read it, this is not typical of me, and I wonder how much of this will be forgiven me? was what I thought while drawing this.

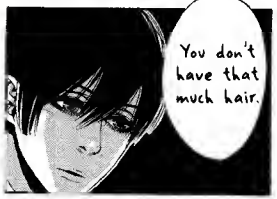
An oldest son and second son, it's possible it could happen, but when I introduced these characters and their actions to my managing editor, she was really happy (laugh). When it comes to BL...

It will have charm for others, and for others none at all.

IF we disagree on this or that important matter but agree on others, people learn from each other...and though some may be concerned about Ichi...well I didn't actually think it out that far...

Well if we can meet again somewhere, that will make me happy. Try not to catch any colds!

Yukimichi Oji



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1ー第二回	Canna Vol.36（2014年6月）
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1一

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